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19 AUG 1959

25X1

Major General Waldo E. Laidlaw
Commanding General
White Sands Missile Range
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Dear Bill:

I have long had an urge to visit White Sands and it looks as though I can do so on 31 August 1959.

I am particularly interested in learning what I can about the project of the Signal Missile Support Agency -- and about the program. With respect to the first, I shall be most interested in the methods used for both the information collection and for the establishment of the validity of the information. While there, I should also appreciate a brief summary of other SMSA projects which have relationship to intelligence collection and any plans for future activity in these areas. If a missile firing coincides with my schedule, I also would be interested in witnessing it, as I've never done so. Beyond this, I'm open to your suggestions.

Since time is short, I'd rather spend time in briefings and viewings rather than in eating a heavy lunch that I don't need anyhow. So I'm all for only a mid-day snack.

I have been in touch with General Hooks at Holloman where I plan to arrive late on 30 August. If the activities at White Sands can be arranged, I can arrive from Holloman as early in the morning of 31 August as necessary. My departure time from Holloman for Vance Air Force Base is tentatively scheduled for 1500, Mountain Standard Time, 31 August. I have asked General Hooks to coordinate the specific scheduling of my visit to Holloman and White Sands with you.

Two Agency officers will be with me. They are: Security clearances are being forwarded through the regular channels. Messrs. are thoroughly knowledgeable of the projects mentioned and I would prefer that they go right along with me.

Please let me know if the above arrangements are agreeable.

Sincerely,

13/ Pearce

C. P. Cabell
General, USAF
Deputy Director

O/DDCI:JMC:CPC:bec

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